COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

100 CAMBRIDGE ST., BOSTON, MA 02202 617-727-3180 FAX 727-9402

William F. Weld
GOVERNOR

Argeo Paul Cellucci
LT. GOVERNOR

Trudy Coxe
SECRETARY

Peter C. Webber
COMMISSIONER

MEETING NOTICE
THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 1996
10:00am-2:00pm

Notch Visitors Center
Holyoke Range State Park
Rt. 116
Amherst, MA 01075
(413)253-2883

AGENDA

**9:30am - a demonstration of off-road vehicles by Frank Rudd, President of Western Massassachusetts ATV Association and others in parking lot.

1. Call to order.

2. Approval of the November 21, 1995 minutes. [5 min.]

3. Old Business: [20 min.]

4. Professor Robert Kirchhoff, UMASS Amherst [30 min.]
   - Wind Resource Assessment Study

5. New Business: [2 hrs.]
   a) DEM's FY'97 Budget
   b) Greylock Center update
   c) Presentation of Wildlands Nominees (Jack Lash)
   d) Jug End Management Plan Briefing

6. Reports: [30 min.]
   a) Director of Forests and Parks Todd Frederick
   b) Deputy Commissioner of Resource Conservation Peter Smith
   c) Commissioner Peter Webber

7. Board Concerns. [15 min.]

8. Public comment. [15 min.]

9. Date for February 1996 meeting. [5 min.]

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Original

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Wednesday, February 21, 1996, at the Visitors Center in Gardner Heritage State Park, 26 Lake Street, Gardner, MA.

Those in attendance were: Chairman Michael Last, Brad Spooner (for Jeff Tranen), Elisa Campbell, Debbie Carey, Ron Smith and Tad Ames. Present from the Department were Deputy Commissioner of Resource Conservation Peter Smith, Director of Forests and Parks Todd Frederick, Warren Archey, Bill Rivers, and Doug Poland. Commissioner Peter C. Webber arrived late due to a scheduling conflict.

The approval of the November 21, 1995 and January 24, 1996 Board meetings minutes were postponed until the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

a) Vote on UMASS Amherst Professor Robert Kirchhoff's Wind Resource Assessment Study. Ms. Campbell left the room to avoid a potential conflict. The Board unanimously voted to approve Professor Kirchhoff's study on three sites; the study may last up to three years following installation, and must be conducted within the guidelines of the Forest and Parks Commission.

NEW BUSINESS:

a) Greylock Center Update - vote on revised Master Plan.
The board voted to approve the revised Master Plan for Greylock center as submitted by Peter Smith. There was considerable discusson about the residential component of the plan, and the Board generally agreed with Ms. Campbell in disapproving of selling of property to individual citizens (although no motion was made to express this concern).

b) Scenic Biway for ROckwell, Notch and Summit Roads at Mt. Greylock State Reservation

Nathaniel Karns of the Berkshire County Regional Planning Commission requested endorsement from the Board of an application for Scenic Biway status for these roads; the proposal has been approved by the affected towns and the Mt. Greylock Advisory Committee. Funding is available through Intermodal Surface Transportation Enhancement Act (ISTEA), but there is a lot of competition to receive funding. The roads will remain seasonal, and do not need to be widened; Mr. Poland expressed hope funds may be found for shuttle buses particularly for foliage season crowds. The Board voted unanimously to endorse the application. Mr. Ames reminded the Board of the proposal for historic recognition of buildings on summit, which he wants the Board to look at.

c) Vote on 1995 Alan Hendry Award Recipient.

The Board voted to support Director Frederick's selection of Les Perry. He explained why Mr. Perry is the top choice, and that there were six other candidates that he reviewed, but that Les really excelled in many areas. The Board wondered how they could vote on candidates they knew nothing about and decided that the best thing to do is to support Todd's vote. Debbie Carey also suggested that those who were nominated could also be recognized in addition to just the person elected. Todd took an action item to review the process of just how the election process works and why.

d) Forestry Presentation by Warren Archey.

Mr. Archey described the Commonwealth's forestry resources and DEM's role in managing and protecting them. About 3.2 million acres of Massachusetts are forested (about 64% of the state); of that 275,000 acres are owned by Forests and Parks. While some forests are owned by other state agencies (Fisheries & Wildlife, MDC), those agencies are more "commodity" agencies, whereas DEM has a broader charge. Part of Forests & Parks budget (about 1/3 or $1 million) comes

from the United States Forest Services, usually in grants for innovative programs.

DEM looks at the total resource and ecosystem management--try to balance uses. Major programs/constituencies include wood industry, supporting private owners of forests, urban forestry [given the density of population in Massachusetts, in a sense all forestry in Mass. is urban forestry], and water supply protection (especially from non-point source pollution). Mr. Archey passed out materials listing major forestry programs. More staff are needed (specifically mentioned need for a watershed management person)-there was a significant cutback in staff 5 years ago.

Bill Rivers gave a brief presentation on forestry, especially management of fire, Manuel F. Correllus State Forest.

Due to Chairman Last's schedule constraints, the November 21, 1995 and January 24, 1996 minutes were deferred to March's meeting. Elisa Campbell will give her notes on today's meeting to Clerk of the Board, Gina Alito.

BOARD CONCERNS:

Debbie Carey reported she attended a legislative meeting where a re-organization of DEM was being discussed. The proposal was to separate the "active" recreation of Forest and Park and the "passive" recreation such as Fisheries and Wildlife. Debbie does not think that this is a good idea and the rest of the board members agreed. She was looking for support from Board members on key points that she would like to present to legislation as to why this is not a good idea and they are:

- o Stripping education from our resource - our resource does not get understood and or valued
- o It is a step backwards to separate forests from the parks
- o The current reorganization plan eliminates the DEM Board and does not provide any other DEM "type" of board in its place to represent the citizens.
- o What problem are they fixing? What need are they serving by fracturing facilities and causing turf wars?

Debbie Carey received support from all Board members as well as their combined input.

Ms. Carey reported briefly on the successful "DEM friends" meeting held January 20th, and reminded everyone there will be a follow-up meeting on February 24th.

REPORTS:

The Commissioner announced the death of John Capone, long-term Board Member from Fall River; he will recommend a suitable memorial in the future.

Open Space Bond

- Section 65 of the Open Space Bond act establishes a commission to study the department's parks; it will consist of 8 legislators and 9 appointees by the Governor.
- Much of the funding in the Bond is earmarked for specific projects; it is not yet clear how much flexibility DEM has.
- "Presumption of Openness" for hunting and trapping in Open Space act: the Commissioner said that land that has been closed can continue to be closed. but if there is any change of use there will have to be a hearing on the presumption. Prospectively, land purchased with Open Space bond funds will be presumed to be open unless a compelling case can be made for it not being open; if a donor is giving land and wants it closed to hunting, that shouldn't be a problem.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting adjourned. The next DEM Board meeting will be Wednesday, March 27, 1996 at Holyoke Heritage State

Park. The April DEM Board meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, April 23, 1996. Location to be determined.

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Wednesday, March 27, 1996 at Holyoke Heritage State Park, 221 Appleton Street, Holyoke, MA.

Those in attendance were Chairman Michael Last, Elisa Campbell, Tad Ames, Brad Spooner (for Jeff Tranen), Ron Smith, Deb Cary. Present from the Department were Commissioner Peter Webber, Director of Forests and Parks Todd Frederick, Kate Lewis, Rich Thibedeau, Andrea Lukens, Jack Lash, Peter Brandenburg, and Gary Briere.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Tad Ames.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the November 21, 1995, January 24, 1996 and February 21, 1996 minutes. The Board unanimously approved all three sets of minutes with Elisa Campbell's corrections and comments submitted from Brad Spooner regarding Professor Kirchhoff's UMASS Amherst windmill project to be included in the November 21, 1995 minutes.

NEW BUSINESS:
Commissioner Webber introduced Kate Lewis, DEM's Chief of Legal Services to the Board.

Mike Gildesgame continued with the agenda and distributed a handout on Watershed Initiative at DEM describing Basin teams and their function, the initiative and goals of the administration, and programs the Department will be undertaking. Rich Thibedeau described how DEM is promoting the watershed initiative message through environmental education with brochures. The brochures will give an explanation of what DEM is doing to communicate with our customers and other agencies.

OLD BUSINESS:
The next item on the agenda was a discussion of the ORV issue. Todd Frederick distributed the revised ORV policy memo to the Board at the beginning of the meeting. The DEM Board ORV subcommittee met prior to the meeting and revised the ORV memo dated March 22, 1996, adding that ORVs are prohibited on Sundays. Todd Frederick feels this proposal reflects the ORV groups' need for a place to recreate and ORV riders want to assist the department with policing the lands and maintaining the trails. The Board then discussed the terms of the proposed Memorandums of Agreement. This Simms Act and new money has come forward to assist the Department in implementing this program. Elisa Campbell stated she was surprised to see nine forests and felt that this was too high of a number; she expressed the idea that ORVs must stay out of areas where they are not allowed (in all forests, whether there is a MOA for that forest or not) in order to demonstrate good faith with the "work together" concept. Tad Ames supported Ms. Campbell's statement. Mr. Ames suggested starting a pilot in one park; if that works, then expand to another three; if that is successful, open more parks. Mr. Ames emphasized starting somewhere were we can handle the logistics, data collecting, etc.

Gary Briere reported that by May 15, 1996 DEM will develop a work plan to mark trails, whether or not an MOA is in place. The Commissioner suggested we "Sunset" this issue, setting up a schedule for a review that everyone knows about. Chairman Last asked for (1) a detailed, coordinated plan to call in enforcement authorities (2) a rotating schedule for the Board to get reports from staff and trail groups about the program, including problems. Chairman Last requested a draft MOA from the Commissioner at the next meeting.

Mr. Frederick highlighted points in the memo: Douglas and Myles Standish State Forests are closed for ORV use; riding will be prohibited on Sundays and from October through April. Tom Harrington felt left out of the developing process of this proposal and objected to banning ORV use on Sundays.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
After a short break the Board welcomed public comment. Mr. Mark Bettencourt felt 9 parks are too limited for ORV use. Edwin Simms agreed. Members from the Pilgrim Trail Blazers inquired where people on the Cape are going to ride. Chairman Last thanked them for their remarks and continued with the agenda.

RARE SPECIES PRESENTATION Jack Lash gave an introduction and background on program. He distributed handouts to the Board and gave examples of different levels of endangered species. Mr. Lash noted that DEM is partners with DFWELE's Natural Heritage Program.

Mr. Lash explained areas of protected open space in Massachusetts listing rare species- flora and fauna including 1995 Rare species on DEM coastal properties.

REPORTS:
Commissioner Webber began his report by having Richard Thibedeau distribute documents for the Board to review and comment on an early action project at Greylock Center. Mr. Thibedeau reported that the Department is on track to go out with the new RFP April 2, 1996.

The Commissioner gave the Board a budget update. The House Ways and Means Committee comes out with budget next week. At the staff level it does not look like there will be any restructuring. The Senate will have more time. Elisa Campbell stressed to the other Board members the importance of contacting legislators to push for more funding and suggested meeting with the senators on the Senate Ways and Means Committee.

Chairman Last requested a "talk piece" in bullet form with figures, trends and consequences in three pages and then would like to pursue meetings. Chairman Last suggested having DEM's Legislative Liaison Anne Fiesinger attend some of the meetings. The Commissioner promised she would contact each member individually. Debbie Cary also requested a list of key legislators that we need to contact.

Todd Frederick gave the Board an update on seasonal hiring. Mr. Frederick reported that Lawrence Riverfront Park, Salisbury, and Berry Pond (a new park) will be up and running this park season. Mr. Frederick would like to get the parks open by April 15 (Patriots Day).

BOARD CONCERNS:
Andrea Lukens gave a report on the Cogbill report. Internally and externally we are trying to translate (interpret) the report. DEM will be issuing a statement on the Cogbill Report.

The Board requested an update on the Smith's Point/Nantucket land acquisition. The Commissioner called for 45-day formal comment period. Audubon is meeting directly with the County Commissioners/Selectmen. Audubon has asked Commissioner Webber to give them the opportunity to come up a "right of way" but are still opposed to the County taking for conservation purposes. The Commissioner is giving them ample time and there is no rush on a decision.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned. The next DEM Board meeting will be Tuesday, April 23, 1996 at the offices of New England Electric in Westborough.

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Tuesday, April 23, 1996 at the offices of New England Electric System, 25 Research Drive, Westborough, MA.

Those in attendance were Chairman Last, Deborah Cary, Elisa Campbell, Tad Ames, Ron Smith and Brad Spooner for Jeff Tranen. Present from the Department were Commissioner Peter Webber, Deputy Commissioner of Resource Conservation Peter Smith, Director of Forests and Parks Todd Frederick, Gary Briere and Jack Lash.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Michael Last.

The minutes of the March 27, 1996 meeting had not been reviewed by all members of the Board and was postponed until the next meeting. Deb Cary requested that copies of the minutes be forwarded to all Board members no later than one week after the meeting to allow time for review, corrections and action.

OLD BUSINESS

ORV Policy: Commissioner Webber distributed a memo dated March 22, 1996 on the revised ORV Policy together with a memo dated April 19, 1996 regarding an update on the revised ORV policy (attachments A and B). Chairman Last requested comments from the Board and then proceeded with public comment.

Tad Ames expressed concern about the assembling of data. Deb Cary stated that baseline data needs to be established prior to the MOAs and that additional staff will be needed to enforce the policies. Gary Briere stated there will be a focus on collecting data. Todd Frederick stated there will be periodic updates to the Commissioner and a need for cooperation from park police, ORV groups and all concerned to ensure enforcement of the policies. Director Frederick also stated that he plans to assign staff full-time to the program. A concern was expressed that evaluation of the data needs to be done completely by ORV user groups and DEM staff. Deb cary felt communication of the policies will be needed for the town where parks are located and this should be part of the implementation process. Commissioner Webber suggested a letter to the Board of Selectmen. Tad Ames passes out a baseline data evaluation for a site in the Berkshires for anyone interested. Concern was raised about disagreement over evaluations between DEM and user groups. Commissioner Webber suggested that an arbitrator may be necessary in some instances.

Chairman Last presented ideas shared during public hearings.

1. A suggestion was made for a user group 1-800 number to report information from the DEM about whether trails are open for riding due to local conditions.

2. Signage - There is a problem with a lack of adequate signs. DEM will work with user group on resolving this issue.

3. Issue of primary access point. Rules and regulations and

trails maps must be available at each access point.

4. Issue of special events. Todd Frederick stated no special events will be allowed in forests without designated trails.

The discussion was then opened up for public comment.

1. Tom Harrington, Counsel for NETRA, distributed a letter (attachment C) to all Board members. The letter outlines NETRA's opposition to the revised ORV policy.
2. Matt Strumco, representing a Brimfield organization, voiced opposition to Brimfield State Forest being open to ORV use.
3. Eric Lindquist, Esq., Government Relations/Department of American Motorcycle Association, distributed a letter (attachment D) to all Board members which listed AMA's in opposition to the revised ORV policy.
4. Jeff Traub expressed concern about endangered species and damage done by people on foot at Myles Standish State Forest.
5. Frank Wright of the Berkshire Trail Council stated the council will not support a Sunday prohibition and inflexible riding schedule.
6. John Leithead of Danbury Cycle Ranch, Danbury, CT, submitted a statement (attachment E) expressing his concerns about ORV use in Massachusetts.

A discussion among Board members ensued. Chairman Last expressed concern that the best chance of success for a partnership with user organization must include a statewide program with one consistent policy at the nine parks listed in the revised ORV policy. Deb Cary stated that she likes the policy of some parks and some trails, supports a Sunday ban and inflexible time schedule; she is hesitant about varied openings; and wants to go forward with a consistent state policy.

A motion was made by Tad Ames, seconded by Elisa Campbell to have the pilot policy in three forests and go ahead with the "special events only" policy in the other nine forests. A vote was taken, Tad Ames and Elisa Campbell were in favor, the other three members were opposed, so the motion failed.

Tad Ames expressed concern about start and stop dates to assure time for assessment and damage repair. He favors a set closing date. Commissioner Webber suggested a possible resolution that seasonal dates be set up as a matter of management on an annual or semi-annual basis. The Commissioner favors a season from May 1st to November 1st. Deb Cary favors a start date of May 15th out of concern for wildlife.

A motion was made and seconded to vote on the following proposal:

1. The pilot policy would include up to nine parks listed in the revised ORV policy, but their use would not be mandated.
2. All user groups interested should be allowed to participate.
3. Sunday riding would be allowed.

4. Set a closing date of November 1st in 1996 and a start date of May 1st in 1997.
5. There will be a sunset provision and there will be periodic interim reviews with a major review no later than December 1997. These regulation will expire December 31, 1998.
6. Local communities will be involvedin implementation.

The vote was unanimous and was carried. Chairman Last stated this proposal has now become a policy statement.

The Commissioner encouraged all user organizations to share this information with their communities and to keep the Commissioner updated on a monthly basis. Chairman Last thanked all for their participation.

Deb Cary made a comment to the public about funding and the upcoming budget and encouraged everyone to speak up for the parks.

OLD BUSINESS:
Commissioner Webber expressed concern that DEM needs an additional $200,000 now to hire seasonal staff. In addition, 10 units have been added to the DEM system which will require addition funding. Deb Cary stated that a message must be sent to the Governor that a reduction in the DEM budget is opposed and urged all Board members to speak with their legislators. Commissioner Webber stated that advocates for the parks must fight for a bigger capital spending cap and that there may be some ways to address some DEM projects outside of the EOEA cap. The Commissioner also stated that some EOEA projects may be eligible for federal dollars.

A motion was made and seconded to petition the Governor for a DEM revolving fund for campground and entrance fees so that the parks will benefit from the fees; and once the revolving fund has been established, but no earlier then spring 97, to raise the fees and dedicated the revenue to service improvements.

The vote was unanimous and was carried.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The next DEM Board meeting will be May 21, 1996 from 2-5 p.m. at Moore State Park in Paxton.

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A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Tuesday, May 21, 1996 at Moore State Park in Paxton, MA.

Those in attendance were Elisa Campbell, Debbie Cary, Ron Smith, later Michael Last, a New England Electric representative for Jeff Tranen. Absent: Tad Ames and Jeff Tranen. Present from the Department were Commissioner Peter Webber, Director of Forests and Parks Todd Frederick, Deputy Commissioner of Resource Conservation Peter Smith. Also attending were Tom Harrington of Pickett and Miyares, Mark Bettencourt and Matt Strumko and Tom Sullivan.

The meeting was called to order by Secretary of the Board Elisa Campbell, in the absence of Chairman Michael Last and Vice-Chairman Tad Ames.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the March 27, 1996 and April 23, 1996 minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved after corrections were made by Elisa Campbell and Debbie Cary. Debbie Cary reiterated her request that minutes be forwarded to all Board members no later than one week after the meeting to allow time for review and corrections.

OLD BUSINESS:

ORV Policy -
Public comment was noted by Tom Harrington, Counsel for NETRA and Matt Strumko, representing a Brimfield organization opposed to ORV use at Brimfield State Forest. Gary Briere, DEM's Chief of Recreation and other Division staff met with the Brimfield Selectmen to hear their concerns. Tom Harrington asked if ORVs can use forests other than the present nine. Todd Frederick stated no special events or use will be authorized in any facility not included in the new policy.

Budget -
Commissioner Webber discussed budget issues. DEM expects to receive $500, 00 in increased fees which will go into effect in the spring of 1997; also, DEM expects to receive $2 million in contracts with telecommunications companies for use of fire towers. Debbie Cary suggested each park develop ideas in an effort to increase revenues at their park.

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A motion was made and seconded for DEM to draft a letter for Chairman Michael Last's signature on behalf of the Board expressing support for the proposed "Second Century Fund" which provides needed support to the forest and park operations of the DEM.

NEW BUSINESS:
Chairman Michael Last requested to set aside some time at the next few Board meetings to develop objectives for DEM in an effort to evaluate DEM's effectiveness.

REPORTS:
Director Todd Frederick gave a brief report of a meeting he attended involving park staff in other northeast states. He was elected President of the Northeast State Park Directors.

The next DEM Board meeting will be with the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Board on Wednesday, June 26, 1996 at WBNERR. Accommodations will be available for Tuesday night, June 25 for anyone wishing to stay over. A memo outlining the details will be sent to all Board members.

Deputy Commissioner Peter Smith gave a brief report on Greylock Center, Boston Harbor Islands and a series of Division of Resource Conservation projects.

Commissioner Webber gave a brief report on the FY97 Budget and proposed Second Century Fund.

BOARD CONCERNS:
Debbie Cary reiterated her request that the Board meeting minutes be forwarded within on week after meetings to allow time for review and corrections.

Chairman Last requested that if the minutes could not be sent within one week of the meeting to at least e-mail notices to all Board members listing the time and date of the next meeting and have a list of all actions taken at the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Public comment was heard under Old Business with regard to the ORV Policy.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the Board of Environmental Management will be a joint meeting with the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Board at the Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Reserve in Falmouth at 10:30am. The DEM Board will hold its monthly meeting following the joint meeting at the same location.

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1:45 pm – Tad

MSV minutes as amended

New Business

Alsop Property
helps provide access to Beartown St 7 from Stockbridge
(Beartown is ~~our largest~~ DEM's largest property)
imp open space –
Laurel Hill Land Trust owns Lee Glen
view, wetlands protection etc

MSV to approve purchase by eminent domain of Alsop Property

FOR DISCUSSION

GUIDANCE FOR MINUTES OF BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT MEETINGS

A MUST

- Board members in attendance
- Votes by the Board on Motions - with exact wording if possible
- Directives of the Board
- Suggestions/requests by Board members

PROBABLY

- Statements of intention by DEM members
- Summaries of presentations by DEM members and other invited attendees
- Summaries of important statements by visitors

NOT NEEDED

- Details on who said what during open discusstion on motions, etc. (could stifle openness; context seldom clear; people change their minds)
- Repetitious or unnecessary information (who called the meeting to order, who made and seconded motions, that the meeting was adjourned)
- Empty sentences or expressions

DRAFT

Corrected ✓ 7/31/96 waiting for highlighted info

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Wednesday, June 26, 1996 at the Waquoit Bay National Esturine Research Reserve Headquarters (WBNERR), Waquoit Bay, MA.

Those in attendance were: Tad Ames, Elisa Campbell, Debbie Cary, Ron Smith and Brad Spooner for Jeff Tranen. Absent - Michael Last. Present from the Department were Chief of Staff Susan Frechette, Director of Forests and Parks Todd Frederick, Chief of Legal Services Kate Lewis, Deputy Commissioner of Resource Conservation Peter Smith, Karl Honkonen, Jack Lash, Bob Wilber, and Reserve Mananger Christine Gault. Also attending were Tom Harrington from Pickett and Miyares, Mark Bettencourt and Marilyn Lund.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Tad Ames at 1:45pm.

The Board unanimously approved the June 26, 1996 minutes as amended.

New Business:
DEM's Director of Land Acquisition Bob Wilber gave a presentation regarding the acquisition of the Aslop Property in Stockbridge by eminent domain. The significance of this property is that is shall help provide access to Beartown State Forest from Stockbridge. The Board unanimously approved the acquisition of the Alsop property by eminent domain. (Took a vote - who moved, seconded)

ACTION: Tad Ames requested that land acquisition be on July's agenda. He has some questions on policy. Debbie Cary requested a five-year plan to look at in draft form.

Bob Wilber then distributed DEM's FY'96 Land Acquisition Protection update.

The next item on the agenda was a report from Deputy Commissioner of Resource Conservation Peter Smith. Mr. Smith distributed a Guide to the Lakes and Ponds in Massachusetts Forests and Parks to each Board member. Mr. Smith gave a brief report on Greylock Center and reported DEM had a meeting with the four development proposal groups on June 25. Mr. Smith concluded with a report of DEM's biodiversity themes at Walden Pond and Spectacle Island.

ACTION: Elisa Campbell requested a copy of the Greylock proposal summary.

Kate Lewis was next on the agenda with an explanation of Executive Order 384. The purpose of the this executive order is to streamline and reduce paper in the regulatory process. Ms. Lewis distributed a draft letter requesting public comment and a one page summary of intended action. The final deadline is November 1, 1996. She requested that the Board and other groups start thinking

about it. All major regulations within the past year will be affected. July 31, 1996 is the deadline for informal responses prior to starting hearings. Debbie Cary suggested that a letter be sent to parties notifying them of the July 31, 1996 deadline. Elisa Campbell commented on the Greylock CMRs.

Tad Ames requested an update from Kate Lewis on Smith's Point/Nantucket. Ms. Lewis reported that a decision has not been made at this time.

Tad Ames asked for public comment, there was none.

Board Concerns:

Brad Spooner distributed a handout to Board members and the Clerk of the Board to assist in the writing minutes for DEM Board meetings.

Reports: Todd Frederick gave a report on ORVs in Brimfield State Forest. Director Frederick showed a map of Brimfield State Forest and reported letters have been sent out to formulate an advisory committee signed by Director Frederick notifying abutters. This was an example/model of how we will implement the ORV policy in other state forests. A handout was distributed.

Mark Bettencourt suggested the signage be changed specifically at Myles Standish State Forest where it says "no motorized vehicles" because it misleads snowmobilers who have access to ride on these trails. ~~not to enter these trails.~~ The Director conveyed he would address that matter.

Reserve Manager Christine Gault gave a slide presentation on the National system of the Esturine Research Reserve and a tour of the facility.

Karl Honkonen gave an example of interpretive programs.

Susan Frechette gave a brief report on the Second Century Fund.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned. the date for the next meeting was scheduled for 11:00am, Wednesday, July 24, 1996 at the Rockwell Visitors Center, Mt. Greylock State Reservation in Lanesborough, MA. The August meeting will be August 28, location to be announced.

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minutes of joint meeting ?

Todd will check

FINAL

DEM BOARD MEETING
Mount Greylock Visitor Center
Wednesday, July 24, 1996 - 11:30 a.m.

Those in attendance were: Tad Ames, Elisa Campbell, Debbie Cary, Michael Last, Ron Smith, and Brad Spooner for Jeff Tranen. Present from the Department were: Todd Frederick, Director, Division of Forests and Parks; Peter Smith, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Resource Conservation; Peter Webber, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Management; Douglas Poland, Regional Director, Region 5; Michael Tirrell, Assistant Regional Director, Region 5; Susan Fairbanks, Director of Public Information, Ellen FitzPatrick, Centennial Coordinator. Also, in attendance were Dennis Regan, Regional Director, Appalachian Mountain Club; Tom Harrington of the New England Trail Riders Association (NETRA), Marilyn Lund of Walden Pond and Mark Bettencourt.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Michael Last.

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 26, 1996 MINUTES

The minutes were unanimously approved after corrections were made by Elisa Campbell and Debbie Cary. Elisa Campbell gave her handwritten corrections to Peter Webber. Debbie Cary mentioned that on the first page, the first action item, in the last sentence of the first paragraph she would like to see the word "a" changed to "the" 5 year plan. It was also mentioned that on the paragraph right above that the Board took a vote and it was too vague. Also, there was no mention of the joint meeting in the minutes.

Todd Frederick stated that he would check with Wayne MacCallum to see if they have minutes from the joint meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no comments.

NEW BUSINESS

Introduction of DEM's Centennial Coordinator Ellen FitzPatrick (Director of Public Information Susan Fairbanks)

Susan Fairbanks introduced Ellen FitzPatrick the Department's new Centennial Coordinator. The Department's Centennial will be taking place in 1998. Ellen FitzPatrick spoke about some of the work that she has been doing to get ready for the Centennial. She is looking for ideas for the Centennial from the Board. The focus of this Centennial will be on the parks. June 20 is the actual date of the

Centennial which falls on a Saturday. Debbie Cary thought it would be great for the Board to respond to a draft outline prior to the next Board meeting so that they could comment. Peter Webber mentioned that the Department will be looking for private support as well as public support to finance this Centennial. Michael Last stated that the Board is interested in being a co-partner in this celebration. He also said it would be good to get young people involved because they are the future. The Board welcomes suggestions from Ellen FitzPatrick. Tad Ames mentioned that the Board would like to be kept apprised of the plans, but he doesn't agree that the Board needs to spend substantial time reviewing the plan and discussing specific details. Michael Last would like to brain storm and share ideas early on. Ellen FitzPatrick would like to send the Board a draft plan, and then come back to meet with the Board and go over the plan. She mentioned that she should have a more concrete budget and time line by then. Debbie Cary mentioned that she believes there should be a lot of merchandising involved with the Centennial.

Doug Poland addressed the Board. He gave a brief overview of Mount Greylock. He also spoke about DEM's relationship with the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC). AMC's Dennis Regan also spoke about the relationship with DEM and the Appalachian Mountain Club at Mount Greylock. Tad Ames congratulated Doug Poland and Dennis Regan on all their hard work at making Mount Greylock what it is. Tad Ames asked a few questions about capital improvements at Bascom Lodge. It was also asked what the status of the historic designation of the summit was and what the status of the rewriting of the lease at the top of the mountain (broadcast towers) was.

Peter Webber stated that Department Counsel, Kate Lewis, has been handling tower negotiations. Peter Webber stated that he did not know what the status of the negotiations was, but he knew there would be a significant increase in rent.

Peter Smith spoke about the historical designation of the summit and Todd Frederick spoke about the renovations made to Bascom Lodge.

<u>Capital Plan (Deputy Commissioner of Resource Conservation Peter Smith)</u>

Peter Smith discussed capital projects and went over documents in a packet that he handed out to the Board. Peter Smith spoke about the role that the Second Century Fund will play in capital projects. Peter went over the 5 year capital outlay plan. He is looking for input from the Board. Debbie Cary formally requested a copy of a document showing how DEM fares versus other departments in regards to capital project allocations. She is looking for the percentage change.

Second Century Fund

The fiscal office did a summary of where we could get additional revenue without raising existing fees. The approximate base is $4.9 million--any revenue that comes in over that is for the fund. It has been estimated that we can raise $500,000 using the existing fee system through increased visitors and more attention to collecting at the gate. The other major way to raise money is in permitting telecommunications companies to use existing towers, but making the charges more competitive through a bidding process. Another category where revenue is increasing is through skating rink concessions. Peter Webber went over places where we can increase revenue without raising fees. We are working to evaluate our fee structure. One area where we could raise fees is for camping. We appear to be the lowest in the nation (except for Kansas)in fees charged at public campgrounds. Any proposed increase would have to go through a public hearing. It should not go through until next season. Elisa Campbell asked about what the process was for raising fees and she also asked about why there were no fees at the pools for swimming. Peter Webber would like to give out more information about the fee structure at the next meeting. Debbie Cary asked Peter Webber what had been earmarked out of the $2.5 million. Peter Webber stated Fall River Heritage State Park tourism ($50,000) and also interns for forestry. Debbie Cary asked if by early September she could talk to the friends groups about how their efforts have paid off...maybe a seasonal hiring plan that she could show them. Peter Webber mentioned that we need to make sure there are good geographic disbursements of this fund.

REPORTS

Deputy Commissioner of Resource Conservation Peter Smith

Mt. Greylock Scenic Byways legislation has been signed by the governor. A number of capital projects have come to a conclusion. Peter Smith made a general comment that now is a planning time for us. This is an opportunity for the Board to comment on what they would like to see.

Director of Forests and Parks Todd Frederick

Todd Frederick gave out copies of the Executive Order No. 387 signed by Governor Weld designating the Mt. Greylock Scenic Byway.

Off-road vehicle MOAs are progressing. The clubs have been identified and have come forward. Todd Frederick raised the question about whether or not they could grant an extension if one of the clubs was almost ready to commit. Work plans are almost completed. Tom Harrington, representing NETRA, gave his comments on the MOAs with regards to the liability issues and also how he thought the process was moving along; he also mentioned his

concerns with the August 15 deadline. Tad Ames, Elisa Campbell, and Debbie Cary want to stick to the deadline. Douglas Poland said he does not think we can meet the deadline. The trails will shut down if the MOAs are not signed by August 15. It was suggested by the Department that if we cannot get everything (trail monitoring plans, trail designations, and trail work plans) to the clubs by August 7 then they should get an extension to August 22. Commissioner Webber said the Department would complete its responsibilites to provide the trail information by August 7. If that does not happe, the Board will be contacted to arrange a conference call to discuss an extension. Such a conference call would be considered a Board meeting and open to the public. Tom Harrington representing NETRA, requested to particpate in the call if it occurs.

Todd Frederick showed a map of the Cape Cod Rail Trail.

Commissioner's Report

On Friday, August 2, Secretary Coxe will be attending an event at Martha's Vineyard at the Correll State Forest that focuses on the biodiversity initiative.

BOARD CONCERNS

Tad Ames wants an update on land acquisition. He asked about this at the last meeting. Peter Webber will put it on next month's agenda. Debbie Cary asked whether when, we acquire land, if it is automatically open to hunting. Peter Webber stated that there is a presumption of openness when it is a fee acquisition. With regards to conservation restrictions that is where the confusion sets in.

Debbie Cary asked about Land Aquisition at Mt. Wachusett and the need to spend money from the Ski Area Trust Fund.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Bettencourt stated that he feels that the Board is being misled by Tom Harrington and Todd Frederick about the issue of MOAs for ORVs. He does not feel that the DEM is giving the information needed to the clubs, aside from the Berkshires.

DATE FOR AUGUST 1996 MEETING

It was decided that the next two meetings will be held on August 28 and September 17, both starting at 10:00 a.m., location to be announced.

Peter Webber mentioned that Michael Last's term is technically expiring but that he will be submitting his name for reappointment. Peter Webber mentioned that he is actively seeking to fill the last position on the Board. Patricia Karl of Lawrence is a possible

candidate to fill this position. Peter Webber gave a status report on old growth. He also mentioned that Smith's Point is close to a positive resolution.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

DEM BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION VISITOR'S CENTER
Wednesday, August 28, 1996

Those in attendance were Tad Ames, Elisa Campbell, Debbie Cary, Ron Smith and Jeff Tranen. Present from the Department were Commissioner Peter Webber, Director of Forests & Parks Todd Frederick, Chief of Staff Susan Frechette, Chief Legal Counsel Kate Lewis. Also in attendance were Donna Brownell of W.E.S.T., Sue Bliven of Nat. Am. Nation, Marilyn Lund of Walden Pond, Tom Harrington, Pickett and Miyares, and Mark Bettencourt

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Vice-Chairman Tad Ames.

APPROVAL OF THE JULY 24, 1996 MINUTES

The minutes were unanimously approved after corrections were made by Elisa Campbell regarding line 6 of page 2 relative to the Second Century Fund and Ron Smith regarding line 1 of page 4 relative to Mark Bettencourt rather than Mike Bettencourt.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no comments.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Webber addressed intended changes regarding the reassigned duties of Deputy Commissioner Peter Smith. Peter Smith will primarily coordinate the Second Century Fund for revenue generation - highly critical for the start up year. Peter will also work on the Greylock Center Project in it's development phase. Peter Smith is assuming the acting Deputy Commissioner position as the department is in the process of posting this position.

Effective August 1, 1996 the Land Acquisition Program of 3 full-time staff from the office of Natural Resources in Resource Conservation will report to the office of legal services with Kate Lewis. This section will then work more closely with the commissioner's office.

Kate Lewis distributed a handout and presentation outlining the function of the Land Acquisition Program. This program has 4 million dollars (up 1 million dollars of last year's budget). Keep in mind this budget is separate from the operating budget. Kate is interested in: developing a structure for regional forests & parks participation, working collectively with the legislative projects and initiatives as well as the non-profit and other agencies, and Board input on this planned structure.

Debbie Cary agrees with the inclusion of regional F&P Staff as

an excellent conduit for conducting business. Regional sessions including all agency land representatives to discuss trends, partnerships. She is very interested in the friends' groups participation. Debbie would be interested in assisting with the coordination of this effort for central Massachusetts.

Commissioner referenced his communications with Commissioner Campbell of Department of Mental Restardion and the possibility of surplusing a 2,000 acre parcel in Templeton adjacent to state forest land. Also, land acquisition which includes watershed initiatives is subject to the overall Bond Cap of 40 million dollars across EOEA Agencies.

Debbie Cary is concerned that the MWRA's capital expenditure uses up too much of the states bond capital.

Kate Lewis is interested in creating with the assistance from forests & parks staff an inventory of potential land acquisition and projects. Also Kate is interested in the nomination of two (2) staff from each region (with the final decision to be made at the Sr. Staff Level) to the Lands Committee in an effort to provide better communication for effectiveness as this issue holds such a high priority.

Commissioner is interested in what role the DEM Board would like to exercise re this issue. There is also an active list of pending projects. Consideration needs to be taken with the Watershed Initiative as it relates to land protection. Tad Ames is interested in keeping the Board apprised on policy issues, items/issues of concern, and is interested in flexibility within the 5 year plan.

In Kate Lewis' response - the process is being evaluated and by mid to late September she can present a plan for this year. The inventory will take it within a certain amount of time. Information is available however in G.I.S. Format. Last years' inventory has been delivered to the Lands Committee; however until due diligence is arrived at the price for property and final deal is not sealed therefore the money is not available until then.

Elisa Campbell is interested in having a list of several years' project/land purchase locations. As interested parties contact her or other board members the board members can then act as ambassadors relative to land acquisition/project efforts and their status and history of past purchases/projects. She is also interested in coordinating field trips (not on board meeting dates) into areas purchased and communicate with the Regional staff.

Jeff Tranen is interested from a policy standpoint in falling within the mission of the D.E.M. and our customer base. Also

interest in a good geographic distribution and its population yet be opportunistic as well. Areas that may have been under-represented need to be evaluated. When asked by Jeff the Commissioner feels comfortable with the departments' land banking and the geographic acquisitions/projects certainly in comparison with other state agencies and their properties.

REPORTS

Commissioner Peter Webber gave an update on the Greylock Center Project. A public announcement will be made next Tuesday or Wednesday of the development partner. This land is not park land rather it is adjacent to park land. Legislators years ago passed this project and intended this land for this use.

Tad Ames inquired of the "designation" of the development, its meaning and relationship. Commissioner Webber identified the number of tests that need to be met over one year including the MEPA process, permitting, etc., the 6.5 million dollars of public monies for this project and the developers' responsibility for the balance to complete this plan and the developer's managing this project which includes an 18 hole golf course, convention, housing and hotel.

Kate Lewis explained the phases involved which include contingencies, finance ability, DCPO, public access, an education center, leasing options and development phases.

Jeff Tranen suggests to build in your protections from the public's perspective. He also questioned the status on Greylock Tower.

Elisa Campbell feels there is some skepticism and opposition from the local community that was not evident six months ago. Also addressed GOALS Plans and its significance relative to Wachusett Mtn. towers and communications and the possibility to tie this plan in with the MEPA Process.

Commissioner responded the public is now more attentive as it develops, he feels there is still much support. This project must be carried and delivered forward. Kate Lewis commented there are ongoing negotiations on Greylock Tower, trying to reflect the concerns and minimize the impact. The tenant is compelled to make retroactive payments with potential elimination of tower. While on the subject of towers Kate answered there are 52 Fire Towers across the state and agencies have asked Forests & Parks staff to use them for microwaves etc, however the towers will be used for public safety issues as well as private, also to aid with the Second Century Fund. The Essex Fire Tower will have the first payment before Christmas into the Second Century Account. The towers are

being bid out one at a time presently. No new towers will be constructed. The Transportation Bond included a study & mandate to consolidate communications @ Wachusett Mtn @ the Summit however the evaluation process may take 3-4 years thus process may not be done by the Department's Centennial. Kate will however submit at the next board meeting the timeline for this project.

The Director of Forests & Parks Report

Director Todd Frederick presented an ORV Update. In so doing, signed reports from F.Gilbert Hills, Franklin & Wrentham are in. Berkshire properties, So. Easton, No. of Boston except Brimfield have not met the signed deadline. Parties agreed until the Sept. 4 meeting to sign the Region 5 MOA's. Signage has been in place as of Aug. 16. Maintenance amounts to (for over 5 parks in region 5) up to (1) one man year which is approx. 2 thousand hours.
Looking for partnerships to be established to aid in having trails available. Monitoring plan is in place, photos of trails, documentation etc. with meetings to follow. Enforcement - education, citations of $50 fines will be issued. Ridership of closed ORV areas are near nil much to the credit of DEM Staff and ORV Clubs. Approximately 230,000 SIMMS report and $50,000.00 in grant awards the Commissioner will announce in addition to operating monies for trails maintenance. Within the next weeks will meet with facility managers to follow consistencies across the state.

Ron Smith has sat in on committee meetings and the trail riders are very close to signing. Doug Poland and field staff are to be commended as they did an excellent on this project.

Comment by Mark Bettencourt re: lack of guidelines of success for the trailriders as they are not familiar with what is expected of them.

Director Frederick answered the MOA identifies the responsibility of the department and of the clubs or individuals having signed the MOA as one level of success.

Jeff Tranen looking for a good faith partnership.

Elisa Campbell commented this is realistically an experiment. In another year we will have one year/season to analyze the findings.

Director Frederick will have staffing & program plan for Centennial. Resource protection, forestry & an internship program from the legislature in place. Items of priority include better services to our visitors, expanded day use, public health and safety issues, starting campground season earlier, expanding

education piece with interpretative program, ways to generate revenue, high ground leases, permits, adjust fees etc.

Debbie Cary concerned the fees should be examined, public process may be needed as last years revenue was 4.3 million dollars.

Kate Lewis commented the baseline will be below 4.3 million due to loss of one (1) time charges therefore bring the figure down to approx. 3.3 million. Revenues generated beyond this will go to the Second Century Fund.

Director Frederick addressed the Out-of-State Fire Crew. 13 DEM Staff went to Oregon to fight on a one of 20 person crew where 10 homes were lost at this particular site. U.S. Forest Service has asked our department for another crew. Eight members also of municipal fire departments responded. One of our District Fire Wardens Phil Moulton oversees a Wildcat Fire in Oregon 14 - 20 person crews have been called out of this area. There is no cost to the Commonwealth. The Federal Government reimburses employee costs, transportation etc.

BOARD CONCERNS:

Debbie Cary is interested in getting back with the Friends Groups possibly October 26 to provide an update.

Director Frederick is willing to present details on staffing, programs, etc. Also, he has submitted for bid consideration the 1998 National Park Directors Conference to be held in Massachusetts.

Elisa Campbell requested Senator Rosenberg be invited.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

See previous comments by Mark Bettencourt on the ORV Issue.

DATE FOR SEPTEMBER 1996 MEETING

The next board meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 17, 1996 at 11:00 am at Lawrence Heritage State Park.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15pm with a press conference following on the Old Growth Forest Issue @ Wachusett Mountain State Reservation.

DEM BOARD MEETING
LAWRENCE HERITAGE STATE PARK
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1996

Those in attendance were Brad Spooner for Jeff Tranen, Ron Smith, Elisa Campbell, Michael Last, Debbie Cary and Tad Ames. Present from the Department were Commissioner Peter Webber, Director of Forests and Parks Todd Frederick, Deputy Commissioner of Resource Conservation Peter Smith, Chief of Legal Services Kate Lewis, Chief of Staff Susan Frechette, Centennial Coordinator Ellen FitzPatrick and park supervisor Dave O'Neill. Also present were Mayor Mary Claire Kennedy, Patricia Karl, Tom Harrington, and Mark Bettencourt.

Lawrence Heritage State Park (LHSP) Supervisor Dave O'Neill gave an overview of the park, environmental programs and curriculum. Mr. O'Neill spoke of the Lawrence-Into-Action meetings and its initiatives in helping the clean up of the GenCorp site, redesigning of the entrance of Canal Street and developing a walking trail along the Merrimack River from Lowell to Newburyport.

Commissioner Webber reiterated what DEM has done for the City of Lawrence including the rehabilitation of the Compagnone Common and the Courthouse.

Commissioner Webber introduced Patricia Karl to the board. She has been recommended to the Governor as a new appointee to the DEM Board. Ms. Karl explained her background and spoke about her connections to LHSP and the cooperative programs.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:
The Commissioner gave an overview about 2nd Century Fund, confident that benefits will start to be seen this fall. Scenic landscapes will get immediate benefits such as extended seasonal help. Plans are in place to address places that never had help or newly acquired facilities.

Tad Ames asked if we can spend anticipated revenues. Peter Webber explained the scenario of a 3 year picture. The hope is to spend DEM revenues as they are generated.

The Commissioner reported that he rendered a Smith Point decision last week. The main condition was that they reach a mutually acceptable agreement with Mass Audubon within 60 days. Both sides say they are close to resolving the issue.

There is a new initiative with Parker River Wildlife Refuge/Plum Island. The Commissioner is working with Congressman Peter Torkildson to help get funding. DEM is looking to help with some money because of Sandy Point. Looking to work with flexible language so that Audubon can be involved. A $500,000 commitment to Sandy Point is being considered, which will strengthen our presence and ability to staff. Federal monies cannot be spent without matching monies. Advantages to DEM would be better visibility and

a cleaner park.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:
Elisa Campbell requested the minutes be amended to read, "Debbie Cary is concerned that the MWRA's capital expenditure uses up too much of the states bond capital."

Tad Ames motioned to accept the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Ron Smith. The board unanimously voted to approve the August 28, 1996 minutes. It was agreed that the board would be sent a copy of the amended minutes.

OLD BUSINESS:
There were no comments.

CENTENNIAL REPORT:
Centennial Coordinator Ellen FitzPatrick gave an update on Centennial Plan goals. Ms. FitzpPatrick plans to visit each region and is looking for connections, so that groups come together. Ellen explained her four part plan:

1. improving facilities and services.
2. increasing awareness of state forests and parks
3. building support/stewardship.
4. improve accessibility.

Ellen highlighted some of her plans. She is looking to develop welcome waysides in every park by 1998, park beautification, and celebration of historically significant sites and would like to expand environmental education programs, i.e. Project Learning Tree and Project Wild.

Michael Last asked to identify potential partners with these programs.

Potential Partners are Mass Audubon, EOEA, Department of Education, Lotus Corp., Project Wild, Garden Clubs. Other ideas include teacher workshops, expand Junior Ranger Programs, and develop a new State Parks Academy.

Peter Smith interjected to introduce Mayor Claire Kennedy. Mayor Kennedy thanked DEM for its great support to the City of Lawrence.

Ellen continued her discussion about her plan, 1998 is the 20th birthday of the Heritage State Parks. DEM's hope is to have an initial meeting with the park staff, friends groups and local communities and would like to get merchandising to the parks.

Mike Last commented about implementing an adopt-an-animal program to raise funds. A short discussion ensued.

Improving accessibility is another goal, Ellen explained this report was a work in progress.

Elisa Campbell mentioned we should better utilize DEM's web site. Discussion followed. Ellen reported the department's approval of hiring a part-time web programmer.

Debbie Cary asked about status of Centennial Commission. Ellen reported the Senate made their recommendation but House has not. The Commission will have a dual mission, to help with the Centennial and look to the future.

Michael Last asked the board about future Centennial reports and mentioned subcommittees. It was agreed that Ellen would share subcommittee minutes with the board rather than coming to each board meeting.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:
Peter Smith spoke about the Coastal Access Grant Program and distributed Coastal Access and Lakes and Ponds program information packets. Peter Smith gave update on Greylock Center. He will be attending an open public meeting in the near future to give people an opportunity to review and comment. Peter assured that a very comprehensive inventory was done on site. DEM is waiting to hear about two grants that will help with project.

Tad Ames asked about what it means now that contract is signed. Peter Smith explained a builder is committed to Phase 1 - small conference center. They must adhere to whole series of milestones, DEM is committed to $450,000. Elisa Campbell was concerned about the housing part of project. Peter Smith explained why the housing projects were moving slowly.

Peter Smith reported that the Schooner Ernestina had a successful year. He distributed a report.

ANNUAL REPORT:
Susan Frechette presented a draft outline of an annual report to the board. Ideally Susan would like to have this wrapped up by the end of November.

Mike Last felt information contained could help in taking to legislature to help with funding. Discussion centered around staffing levels being included in report. Brad Spooner recommended a short letter from Commissioner. Deb Cary recommended a letter from Chairman Michael Last regarding information on the Conservation Trust and the Second Century Fund and highlight the Centennial. Also, a separate category should discuss the grant program.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:
Todd Frederick gave an update on ORVs. The MOAs for the Berkshire Trail Group was signed off on September 5, Freetown and Brimfield remained unsigned. Park Supervisors discussed a monitoring plan last week and funding was discussed. Todd discussed items with landowners, work plans with signed MOAs.

Ron Smith inquired if a supervisor at local level can issue citation. Todd said yes, except at Georgetown-Rowley State Forest which will happen this winter.

Tad Ames reported that a group of students from Williams College will be monitoring ORVs at Savoy and Pittsfield State Forests and will submit their report at end of year.

Mike Last asked about riding at Myles Standish. Mark Bettencourt explained the problems with ORV clubs signing the agreement.

Todd explained early action spending of Second Century Fund. DEM will extend seasonal interpreters and campgrounds through October and expand on trails maintenance. Staff was kept on at locations where we can collect money. Two full-time staff recently hired.

The revenue and fee side is being worked on by Todd and Peter Smith. Some discussions have taken place to look at existing fees.

Brad Spooner asked what regulatory process is needed. Todd replied that the official CMR change or modification process has not begun yet but it will have to in December or January.

The National Association of State Park Directors Conference was cancelled last month due to the hurricane and has been moved to December 3-7 in Ashville, SC. Todd is trying to persuade the State Park Directors Association to hold the next conference in Massachusetts.

Lastly, Todd reported that fires out west are quieting down.

BOARD CONCERNS:
Debbie Cary asked for update on Conservation Trust. It was discussed that they will receive this at the next meeting.

Elisa Campbell asked why are we only using half the money for land acquisitions around Mt. Wachusett. Kate Lewis explained the Commissioner's position. Ms. Campbell also requested that when the Board amends the minutes, a final copy should be distributed showing corrections.

Mike Last mentioned a letter he wrote that did not receive a response.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
There were no comments.

DATE FOR OCTOBER 1996 MEETING:
The next board meeting will be held Monday, October 28, 1996 at 10:30am at Walden Pond State Reservation.

The November meeting was tentatively set for November 21st at Plimoth Plantation.

NO

OCT 96

MTG

DEM BOARD MEETING
THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1996

Those in attendence were Michael Last, Debbie Cary, Elisa Campbel, Tad Ames, Ron Smith and Brad Spooner for Jeff Tranen. Present for the Department were Commissioner Peter Webber, Director of Forest and Parks Todd Frederick, Deputy Commissioner of Resource Conservation Peter Smith, Chief of Legal Serice Kate Lewis, Chief of Staff Susan Frechette, Gary Briere, Raul Silva, Ellen FitzPatrick, Rich Thibedeau, Patrice Kish, Gail Yeo and Stuart Weinreib. Others present were Tom Harrington of Pickett and Miyares and Mark Bettencourt.

After bringing the meeting to order, Mike Last allowed Regional Supervisor Anne Stempka to introduce the park supervisor who gave an overview of the 365 day a year operations at Myles Standish.

Approval of minutes: ?

Kate Lewis made a brief presentation concerning a friendly land taking in Granby which allowed for the clearing to title on a small property we were acquiring. There was no discussion, the taking was unanimously approved and Elisa Campbell signed the vote approving it.

ORV Update: {see todd}:

Fees discussion: Todd Frederick, Peter Smith and Gary Briere presented a report on our current recreation fee structure and the opportunity to generate revenues for the Second Century Fund through increased fees. The report identified five objectives of our fee program, pointed out that DEM's fees are the lowest in the northeast and identified six recreation facilities which together collect more than half of DEM's recreation fee revenue.

Several fee policy issues were introduced and discussed by the board. These included: resident vs. non-resident fees, per person vs. per car fees and midweek or other discounts. The Board agreed that the out of state visitors should be not be charge extra.

At the Director's request, the board appointed a subcommittee to work with DEM staff in reviewing various fee options and developing a proposal for presentation at the next board meeting. Elisa Campbell and Deb Cary volunteered as board representatives to work with Peter Smith, Todd Frederick and Gary Briere on the issue. The Board agreed that they would vote on the subcommittee's recommendations at the next meeting.

Greylock Summit improvements: Rich Thibedeau was introduced and provided an overview of the improvements planned for the summit. There was much discussion about the ways to address the inadequate bathrooms, and Rich described the three locations under

consideration: adding onto the Bascom Lodge; altering the maintenance shed, or creating a new bathroom near the existing parking lot. Rich pointed out the problems associated with all three sites, and there was considerable discussion by the board. Patrice Kish answered a few questions about the status of the Historic Curatorship program geared toward Bascom Lodge, and explained that the current timing (Patrice can provide specifics) has to do with the agreement in effect with the Appalachain Mountain Club. Then, Stu Weinreb provideed an oveview of the design of the summit planned for the Centennial. Raul Silva discussed the limitations of the construction season, as well as the condition of the Veterans memorial tower, and the plans to close it off completely next summer in order to complete the work as quickly as possible. It was agreed the board would vote on the proposed improvements at the next meeting.

Douglas State Forest presentation: Peter Webber introduced the topic providing information about the request made by the town of Douglas, and the reasons for their desire to use state land for their expanding youth recreation programs. Todd Frederick showed the board a map of the proposed location of soccer fields for the town of Douglas, within Douglas State Forest. Debbie Cary pointed out that if this is approved, the town of Paxton will be right back looking for approval of their proposal to use Moore State park for some of their recreation needs. The Commissioner stated that the two situations were quite different, but agreed with Debbie's suggestion that DEM should develop criteria by which this use would be permitted. It was decided that DEM would do so, and come back to the Board with some draft criteria for discussion.

General Reports: ?

Board Concerns: Tad Ames spoke of his desire to know more about DEM's land acquisition program. Tad compared our program to that of other EOEA agencies, and indicated the DEM board is the only board that does not approve all acquisitions before they happen. Tad assured DEM that he did not want to slow down the acquisition process, but cited several instances where he had read in the newspaper that DEM was acquiring land in the Berkshires that he was unaware of Commissioner Webber answered him, and indicated that in one instance at least, the newspaper caught up with a routine notice that DEM sends out to communities and used that to write a story that was premature.

The board spent some time talking about how long the meetings are, and as Ron Smith was absent that day and Michael Last had left the meeting after the Greylock Presentation, there was some discussion about the way the agenda is structured. The board feels they need more information, but there was some discussion about how long member should be expect to attend meetings.

Debbie Cary (or was it Elisa Campbell) stated that she planned here whole day to attend a board meeting, and other members should spend the time as well.

Public Comment: Mark Bettencourt spoke up about ORVs.

There being no further business before the board the meeting was adjourned. The next DEM Board meeting was scheduled for Monday, December 23, 1996 at the offices of New England Electric Systems in Westboro.

NO

DEC. 96

MTG

due to STORM